

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
BUILDING CODES COMMITTEE

June 18, 2003
Maricopa Association of Governments Office
Cholla Room
Phoenix, Arizona

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Ken Sowers, Avondale
Mike Tibbett, Carefree
Bob Lee, Cave Creek
A - Alex Banachowski, Chandler
Jeff Sterling, El Mirage
*Unappointed, Fountain Hills
*Unappointed, Gila Bend
* JoRene Deveau, Gila River Indian
Community
A- Ray Patten, Gilbert
Bill Griffith, Glendale
Steve Burger, Goodyear
*Chuck Ransom, Litchfield Park

*Armando Rivas, Paradise Valley
David Nakagawara, Peoria
Joe MacElvaney, Phoenix
Tim Wegner, Queen Creek
Larry Francis, Salt River Pima-Maricopa
Indian Community
David Potter, Scottsdale
Forrest Fielder, Surprise
A - Michael Williams, Tempe
Mario Rochin, Tolleson
*Skip Blunt, Wickenburg
Bob Cooperider, Youngtown
Tom Ewers, Maricopa County
Rus Brock, Home Builders Association
Orion Goff, Mesa

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

A-Those members participating via audioconference

V-Those members participating via videoconference

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Michelle Green, MAG
Fran Smith, Southwest Gas

Constance Kish, MAG

1. Call to Order

The chair called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Introductions

Members of the Committee introduced themselves and Fran Smith of Southwest Gas introduced herself and named the people that would be presenting on agenda item

number six, New Requirements for conventional gas-fired hot water heaters manufactured for sale and use in the U.S.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes for May 21, 2003

Steve Burger moved to accept the minutes and Tom Ewers seconded the motion. Mr. Lee asked if there were any comments prior to taking a vote. Dave Potter corrected a statement made by Bob, which seemed to indicate that the City of Scottsdale renewed a contract with Rural Metro when what in fact the City voted not to pursue providing their own fire service by acquiring the staff and equipment to do so.

Bob then recommended additional corrections on page three, third paragraph from the bottom. Mr. Lee clarified that Mr. Burger was referring to non-consensus codes. Steve concurred that he was. Mr. Lee then added to third paragraph on page 4 indicating that Mr. Perkins said that he is tired of stomping out “fires” when it comes to a he said she said issue.

Steve Burger moved to accept the minutes and Tom Ewers seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed with 16 member voting yes and 3 abstaining.

4. Call to the Public

The chair asked if anyone from the public or the committee would like to discuss a topic that is not on the agenda.

Ken Sowers asked about the use of a cylinder device to test concrete. He heard that it is more accurate in measuring concrete strength than previous methods.

Forrest Fielder indicated that that was true and said that he has spoken with a company regarding the testing device and they think that this may be the way of the future in testing concrete. Forrest also mentioned that he had contacted AZBO to see if they were interested but AZBO was cool on the idea because it requires a high level of quality control in order to achieve a high level of accuracy. He said that AZBO would not rule it out.

Bob indicated that according to engineers he spoke with, calibration can be a problem and they questioned the results.

Tim Wegner asked how Building Officials are handling the IBC requirement dealing with service sinks in each space in the case of a multiple tenant building. He asked if they were not requiring sinks for each tenant, what mechanisms are in place to allow this.

Forrest indicated that that has been proposed as an amendment a meeting of the AZBO Code Review and Development Committee.

Steve said that Autumn did some research and the way it is handled is still different for each agency.

Tim then asked David Nakagawara if Peoria required individual service sinks for each unit.

David said that he had not seen this issue yet but that he would check on it for Tim.

Tim indicated that he would have discussions offline with others to get an opinion as to how to handle it.

Forest then added that an option is to treat it as a lab with a service sink.

Michelle then mentioned that the simplified language on the solar hot water heaters as requested by the committee is available and being handed out. Ms. Green added that anyone who has issues or concerns with the language should let her or Constance know.

5. AIA and Building Code Officials

Mr. Cassidy was unavailable to present. We will attempt to have him present at the next meeting.

6. Panel Discussion on the New Requirements for conventional gas-fired water heaters manufactured for sale and use in the U.S.

Fran Smith of Southwest Gas introduced the panelists who presented on the new ANSI test requirements for water heaters. The panelists included Don Cinder, R&G Sales; Shawn Marley, Double K/XCEL Sales; Jim Porter & Bob Saylor, PIR Sales; Presidents Jeff Harris and Rick Knowles, Knowles Company; Del Johnson, Marketing Pros

Each company gave a brief presentation and handed out information on their product and the legislation that requires the changes that have been made.

It was noted that the issue as far as the building codes committee is concerned is the ANSI requirement for a platform for the water heater.

David Nakagawara then asked the manufacturers are required to notify people directly on the unit that it conforms to ANSI standard. The answer was yes.

David clarified that the reference was to the 2002 ANSI standard. Again, the answer was yes.

David Nakagawara indicated that there is a lag between the manufacture of these water heaters and enforcement, he also noted that jurisdictions in the Valley are using a variety of codes and asked if the standard is referenced in the 2003 I-Code.

Tom then asked if there is anything about these that means that the old ones did not meet the previous codes.

Bob asked if they can meet the labeling process could we do something sooner.

Bill indicated that it could be looked at as an alternate method.

Del Johnson then stated that the requirement for the 18" stand is really the issue. He indicated that there was a presentation made to the UPC to eliminate the requirement for the 18" platform.

Bob then asked if there is any loss in efficiency with this change.

The response was no, there is not.

Bob then asked if it is still getting all of the air it needs.

The response was that it has been. Actually, it has been sold as a high priced option for a while.

Rus noted the cost increase, 50 to 75% more expensive.

Mike noticed that the vents are in different places and wondered what kind of requirements this would result in.

The response was that zero clearance is required. It was then explained that certain models are not approved for outside installation.

Joe explained that we wouldn't see them installed until approximately November.

Bob then asked, if there is anyone that would object to removing the requirement for the 18" platform. He then added that the requirement should be removed only if tested that way.

There were no objections.

7. Update on the Activities of the Building Inspectors and Plans Examiners Forum

The chair introduced announced that he reluctantly accepted a letter of resignation from the position of Chair of the Building Inspectors and Plans Examiners Forum from Cheryl Levandowsk. Bob stated that her enthusiasm and dedication would be missed. He then announced that the past Vice Chair, Bruce Johnson from Queen

Creek, has assumed the Chair. Bob then indicated that he felt that Bruce would do an exceptional job and that the committee should give him their support.

8. Update on the State Plumbing Commission

Steve Burger said that he spoke with Bill Sullivan and that last Thursday's meeting was cancelled. Mr. Burger stated that all the amendments are complete and ready to go. The next meeting could be as late as November

9. Update Survey of Code Adoption

Bob Lee asked if everyone at the meeting had a chance to look over the list of codes that each member agency is currently using and make any corrections they felt necessary.

Dave Potter mentioned that Scottsdale is working towards adopting 2003 I Codes with an effective date of September 16. He also noted that Scottsdale is on the 1994 Plumbing Code.

Joe McElvaney stated that in May their citizen Advisory Board wanted more time. He indicated that September 15 is the deadline. He also mentioned that they are moving ahead with the NEC 2002.

10. Updated MAG Building Codes Committee Membership

The Membership roster was circulated with the agenda for this meeting and no changes were noted.

11. Topics for Future Agendas

Bob suggested that he has spoken with the state soil scientist and they may be interested in presenting to the committee and he indicated that we would try to get Brian Cassidy back again.

12. Adjournment

The next meeting will be held on July 16, 2003 at 2 pm in the Cholla Room. Bob Lee made the motion to adjourn, David seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.